

Amendments to the Drawings:

The replacement drawing sheets attached in connection with the above-identified application containing Figures 1-4 are being presented as a new formal drawing sheets to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheets containing original Figures 1-4. Figures 1-4 have been amended to correct various typographical errors and to include various missing references as requested by the Examiner.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 1-3 and 7-9 have been amended, Claims 4-6 have been canceled, and new Claims 10-27 have been added. Support for the amended and new claims can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. In addition, the specification has been amended to correct various typographical errors and replacement drawing sheets have been provided to amend Figures 1-4 to correct various typographical error and to include missing references. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-3 and 7-27 are now pending in this application.

I. Drawing Objections

On page 2 of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to as missing several references. As indicated above, replacement drawing sheets are being submitted herewith. Applicants respectfully submit that the replacement drawing sheets include the missing references as suggested by the Examiner. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, and, as such, no new matter has been added. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

On page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. More specifically, the Examiner stated that the claim language “an acknowledgment message” from Claims 1, 4, and 7 is unclear. This language has been removed from Claims 1 and 7 and Claims 4-6 have been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Claims 2 and 8 depend from Claims 1 and 7, respectively.

In addition, the Examiner stated that claim language directed to a “next router” and a “previous router” is unclear. This language has been removed from Claims 3 and 9 rendering the

rejection moot. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

On page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 1, 4, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,654,359 to La Porta (hereinafter “La Porta”). Claims 1 and 7 have been amended and Claim 4 has been canceled, rendering the rejection moot.

Amended independent Claim 1 recites, in part (with emphasis added):

requesting, by the first network element, header compression state information from the second network element; and

receiving, at the first network element, the requested header compression state information from the second network element.

Claim 7, though different in scope, recites similar elements. Applicants respectfully submit that La Porta fails to disclose such elements.

La Porta is directed to the use of “[d]omains [that] are defined to incorporate a subnet including a plurality of base stations and routers” (Abstract). On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserted that column 22, lines 1-25 of La Porta discloses “sending an acknowledgment message [that] includes the updated reference state.” However, La Porta fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the communication of any information that includes “header compression state information.” Column 22, lines 1-25 of La Porta states:

Upon receiving the handoff path setup message, router R7 increments the Information Element metric field and updates the routing entry for the mobile device 114 in its routing table in the same manner as base station BS10 did. Therefore, router R7 associates the mobile device's IP address with the interface over which the instant handoff path setup message was received (R7 IntfC). Router R7 then forwards the instant handoff path setup message to base station BS9 (the old base station) for the third hop

454, from R7 IntfB to BS9 IntfA. Upon receiving the handoff path setup message, base station BS9 increments the Information Element metric field and updates the routing entry for the mobile device 114 in its routing table in the same manner as previously described. Therefore, base station BS9 associates the mobile device IP address with the interface over which the instant handoff path setup message was received (IntfA). Thus, packets subsequently processed at base station BS9 which have the mobile device's IP address in the packet's destination address field are redirected to base station BS10 for transmission to the mobile device 114. Base station BS9 then routes an acknowledgment 456 back to the mobile device 114 utilizing the routing table entries just established by the handoff path setup message to correlate the mobile device's IP address with an interface at each router in the path.

As such, La Porta discloses a handoff procedure in which an information element is incremented and a routing table is updated to “correlate the mobile device’s IP address with an interface at each router.” However, La Porta fails to disclose the communication of “header compression state information” anywhere in this procedure. Indeed, La Porta fails to even reference the “compression” of a “header.”

As such, Applicants respectfully submit that La Porta fails to disclose at least one element recited in each of independent Claims 1 and 7. Applicants therefore request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 4, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

IV. New Claims 10-27

Claims 10-27 have been added. Applicants respectfully submit that La Porta fails to disclose at least one element recited in each of Claims 10-27. Claims 10-14 depend variously from independent Claims 1 and 3. As discussed above, Claims 1 and 3 are believed to be in condition for allowance. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 10-14 are in condition for allowance based at least on their dependence from Claims 1 and 3.

Independent Claim 15 recites, in part, “sending at least a portion of header compression state information from the mobile node to the first network element as part of the handoff

procedure.” Independent Claim 20, though different in scope, recites similar elements. Independent Claim 21 recites, in part, “receiving a binding acknowledgment message [that] includes header compression state information utilized by the second network element.” Independent Claim 27, though different in scope, recites similar elements. As discussed above, La Porta fails to disclose the communication of any information including “header compression state information.” As such, Applicants respectfully submit that La Porta fails to disclose at least one element recited in each of independent Claims 15, 20, 21, and 27 (and their associated dependent claims).

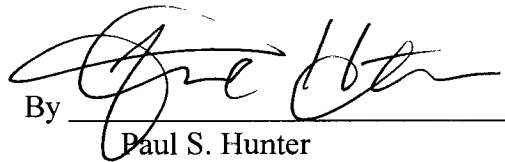
Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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